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it costs the governments and what it brings of industrial burden in return, and "Syndicates for War"—the "armament lobby of Europe," with the "war scare" as its weapon—are next vividly described.

War today can probably never be international; it may be civil or imperial. Professional interest, the hidden trail of diplomatic intrigue, the "mirage of the map," the desire to be a world power—all serve as fuel to fan the flame of possible war. The only check to civil war, in Dr. Jordan's opinion, is in the establishment of democracy. Imperial war is not so easily preventable, owing to the desire for enlarged possession on the part of the civilized nations.

The concluding chapters on "Retrenchment" and "The Passing of War" show the way out of the burden of debt in which the nations are involved and the way into the glorious future when war shall be discarded.

"Science has slain war. . . . It remains for Finance to give it a decent burial."

An appendix is included in the volume which illustrates the cost of armament and other expenses of the great nations.

**THE HUMAN SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.** By Wilhelm Lamszus. Translated by Oakley Williams. With Introduction by Alfred Noyes. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co. 127 pp. 50 cents net; postpaid, 56 cents.

The pacifists of the early part of the last century often emphasized the horrors of war. In these latter days we have been stressing the importance of courts and arbitrations as the rational substitute for war. Prof. Wilhelm Lamszus, a German public schoolmaster, has gone back to first principles and given to us in his "Menschenschlachthaus" a most expert and convincing picture of a modern war. In this little book one finds revealed the automatic, mechanical, blind heartlessness of the soldier's sacrifice—no longer the "honorable soldier's death," but the death by "experts," by "mechanicians," by "machinery." In these few pages the artist paints for us with the realization of a Zola the blood-red madness of battle, the big, glazed eyes and clawing fingers of death. We are shown with a few master strokes how our boasted civilization turns its Christ into a wooden puppet, and for its patron saint enthrones in His place the fiery Djengis Khan. It is not surprising that this book has reached a sale of 100,000 copies in Germany; that it is being translated into eight foreign languages. We readily understand why the author was removed from his official position by the government, and, encouraging fact, that he was reinstated because of the weight of public opinion. Any reader of this book will understand why the author received a vote of thanks from the Nineteenth Universal Peace Congress at Geneva.

**THE TWO HAGUE CONFERENCES.** By Joseph H. Choate. Princeton: The Princeton University Press. 124 pages, cloth. Price, \$1.00 net.

The two chapters of this book were the Stafford Little lectures of 1912 at Princeton University. No better interpretation of the two Hague Conferences, their work

and significance, and promise of large, lasting influence on the world has appeared than is found in these pages. Indeed, of the briefer books we do not hesitate to say that this is the best, so far as we have seen. Mr. Choate's extended diplomatic experience as ambassador and his service as head of the United States Commission in the Second Hague Conference made it possible for him to interpret these international gatherings as few men could do. Add to this his acumen, fine insight, and remarkably clear, simple, and attractive style, and you have all the conditions of a perfect book. Students of the Hague Conferences cannot do better than to begin their studies with Mr. Choate's lectures.

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